

## GETTYSBURG.

## A GREAT VICTORY WON!

## The Second Battle, on Thursday, July 2.

## Official Despatches from Gen. Meade.

## Heroic Conduct of the Third and Fifth Army Corps.

## The Rebel General Advance Repulsed at All Points.

## Generals Paul and Zook Killed and Generals Sickles, Barlow, Graham and Warren Slightly Wounded.

## The Rebel General Barksdale, of Mississippi, Killed.

## Reported Death of Gen. Longstreet.

## The Third Battle, on Friday, July 3.

## The Rebels Driven Back Four Miles and the Union Troops Following Them.

## THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.

## OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM GEN. MEADE.

WASHINGTON, July 3, 1863.

An official despatch was received this afternoon from Major General Meade, dated Headquarters, Army of the Potomac, eleven o'clock P. M., July 2, which says:—

"The enemy attacked me about four o'clock this afternoon, and, after one of the severest contests of the war, was repulsed at all points.

"We have suffered considerably in killed and wounded. Among the former are Brigadier General Paul and Zook, and among the wounded, Generals Sickles, Barlow, Graham and Warren slightly.

"We have taken a large number of prisoners."

SECOND DESPATCH.

WASHINGTON, July 3, 1863.

A later despatch has been received from Major General Meade, dated eight o'clock this morning, which says:—

"The action commenced again at early daylight upon various parts of the line.

"The enemy thus far have made no impression upon my position.

"All accounts agree in placing their whole army here.

"Prisoners report that Longstreet and A. P. Hill's forces were much injured yesterday, and that many general officers were killed. General Barksdale, of Mississippi, is dead. His body is within our lines.

"We have thus far about sixteen hundred prisoners, and a small number yet to be started."

## THE DETAILS OF THE BATTLE.

## THE BATTLE OF WEDNESDAY.

HEADQUARTERS, FIRST ARMY CORPS, July 2, 1863.

Major General Reynolds was placing his men when he was fatally wounded, and urging them on to the support of General Buford. He cried out in his enthusiasm, "For God's sake! forward, my brave boys—forward!" And forward they did go—that iron brigade of old Colonel Meredith's, which has never failed since the war began. Just then General Reynolds received his fatal wound, and falling over upon Captain Wilson, his aid, who was riding beside him, he exclaimed, "Good God, Wilson, I am killed!"

Captain Wilson had his horse shot under him at about the same time, and was severely bruised by the fall. Brigadier General Meredith was badly bruised by the fall of his horse, which was killed. His son, Lieutenant Meredith, was wounded in the leg by a shell. Lieutenant Woodward, aid-de-camp to General Meredith, was wounded in the right arm. General Meredith's brigade went into the fight 1,200 strong, and came out with only 500. Among the killed, wounded and missing were the following officers:—

DEATHS AND WOUNDS. DEPT. JOHN TUCKER, Co. E, killed. Lieut. Benjamin, Co. E, wounded in left shoulder. Lieut. John Kelly, Co. E, arm, slightly. Lieutenant H. Frye, Co. A, left hand. Lieutenant Lloyd D. Harris, Co. C, neck, slightly. Lieutenant Mander, Co. E, killed. Lieutenant Chapman, Co. E, killed. Lieutenant Merriam, Co. H, wounded. DEATHS AND WOUNDS. DEPT. JOHN TUCKER, Co. E, killed. Lieut. Benjamin, Co. E, wounded in left shoulder. Lieut. John Kelly, Co. E, arm, slightly. Lieutenant H. Frye, Co. A, left hand. Lieutenant Lloyd D. Harris, Co. C, neck, slightly. Lieutenant Mander, Co. E, killed. Lieutenant Chapman, Co. E, killed. Lieutenant Merriam, Co. H, wounded.

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Captain J. T. Tucker, Co. E, wounded.

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This was known in respect to the enemy's

movements, but it was thought to be clearly

evident that he was moving his forces on our extreme

right. In view of this additional preparation was made

to meet whatever might come in that direction. But

there were some who thought from the first that the

movements of the enemy towards our right were made

up for a show, and to distract attention from more im-

portant points; for such was the nature of the country

that, had the enemy really wished to make his forces there,

he could have done it without making a man visible.

All day more or less picket firing had taken place

on our left, and it became pretty sharp between

two and three P. M. Some movements were in

progress behind the fire, and to develop these General

Sickles was ordered to advance with the whole Third

Corps. This advance brought on the general engagement.

Under cover of a fire from the right flank pieces in

battery on the open field, the corps went forward in line

of battle, corps and division and brigade colors all in the

air, and the men in excellent spirits. Then the enemy's

artillery, so long silent, began on our left at the place in

the field. In turn our pieces on Cemetery Hill opened on

those of the enemy in the field; other batteries of the

enemy nearer our centre opened on those on Cemetery

Hill, and so it went around until our guns on

the northern face of the hill engaged the enemy's

batteries two miles across the country, on our right. The

whole valley in which Gettysburg lies was an immense

network, with the trace of shells from battery to battery.

Such a concentration of fire on our position naturally

prevented some movement of ambulances and ammunition

wagons, and in ten minutes after this extensive

fire began the Baltimore turnpike was used with vehi-

cles in motion towards safer places. All sorts of "shaky

fellows also improved this opportunity to effect a slight

retreat, and soon the columns of men in motion towards

the rear became considerable, then the columns of

vehicles. When men began to go each ad-

ditional shell that exploded in the air above them

makes them want to go faster, and, owing to this peculiar

constitution of the human animal, a stampede down the

Baltimore road was imminent, when a line of men was

established and every fellow disposed to retire was forced

to the front.

By this shelling the Cemetery Hill was cleared. All

day it had been occupied by lines of men, and these groups

of officers gathered together, inspected the position and

examined the possibilities. Many men sat upon the

graves, leaned against the tombstones, and recounted

their various misadventures. Orders came and went

incessantly, for these generals Howard and Steuart had

their headquarters. Altogether the City of the Dead was a very lively place;

but very soon after the artillery fire became warm, it

was deserted by all but the generals, whose headquarters

were there, and some necessary to hold in place.

Meanwhile the musketry fire on our left seemed to be

become every moment more and more fierce. Already the

Third Corps had once been driven in disorder from ground

it had won, but, rallied by General Sickles in person, it

had again gone forward and now held its place with de-

termining tenacity against a very heavy force, for this advance

on our left had developed that the enemy's force was in

reality massed here; and when the Third Corps took

the initiative, it only precipitated an attempt on the

part of the enemy which might otherwise come when we

were not so well prepared to receive it.

Hard pressed on its whole line, the Third Corps called

for support, and at five P. M. the Fifth Corps was

marched from its position on the Baltimore turnpike, by a

little cross road right across to the little hill just north of

Loss Hill, and went into action on the left of the Third

Corps. This advance developed still further the intention

of the enemy, which was to get around our left flank, and

so to get at the Emmitsburg road, and perhaps at

our ammunition wagons near it. As the division of

regulars and Griffin's division of the Fifth

Corps went forward, and before the fire had opened

on their front, some fire swept from their left down

the line, and the right brigade of the division of regulars

was wheeled so as to face that way. No sooner had it

done so than the fire opened, which came in the

rear of the right brigade, and threw it into some con-

fusion; but it was rallied and went on again, and the line

of the two divisions drove the enemy before it until it

had taken the position previously occupied by one of the

enemy's batteries.

Here a fire was concentrated on these two

divisions from batteries further to the rear, and

at the same time the enemy was reported

on their left. At once the line was ordered to

retire, and went back steadily to the crest of the hill.

This hill was not particularly precipitous, but on the

front it was very rough and rocky, and the crest was

covered with a growth of scrub oaks.

It was half an hour before sunset, and now came

the final great attempt with which the rebels usually en-

deavor to close up great engagements—the attempt

which certainly has in the larger number of instances

been crowned with success. Here, however, it met

a different fate. Two divisions, which proved to

be the First and Second Corps, of Longstreet's

army, were formed for the last attempt,

and came forward in their usual magnificent

style. They had difficult ground to come over, and

when they came, over rocks and through the low wood, until

within a fair distance, when they made a rush with all

possible vigor, and in one they did not keep their

line very even, but they were scarcely less impetuous

as a mass than they would have been in line. They killed

men on the crest of the hill, over the crest, and men

were even driven well down on the other side; but these

pursued on those that held their places, and bullets

were poured into the rebel mass by volleys. Checked, broken,

beaten back by this one Titanic effort of the Fifth

Corps, the attacking column was scattered down the hill, and

the battle was over on the left, with the enemy com-

pletely beaten.

In twenty minutes after the heavy fight was over on

our left, the last vestige of daylight was gone, and the

moon was so much enveloped in clouds that it was scarce-

ly possible to see at all. Just in this impenetrable dark-

ness the fire of picket lines across our right, and in a

little while swelled into a heavy continuous fire. This

was at the spot where the Twelfth Corps had been

placed early in the day, but when the battle began

descended on our left all of the Twelfth Corps but one

brigade had been sent over there. The brigade thus left

was the Third, of General George's division, made up

of two New York regiments—the Sixtieth, Seventy-eighth,

One Hundred and Second, One Hundred and Thirty-

seventh and One Hundred and Forty-ninth, and was com-

manded by Brigadier General George S. Greene. Though

the force was so slight the command was in worthy

hands, and thus our brigade was enabled to hold a line

which had previously been occupied by a corps. Gen.